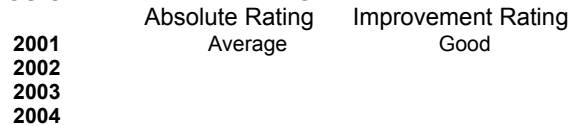


ABSOLUTE RATING: Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Good

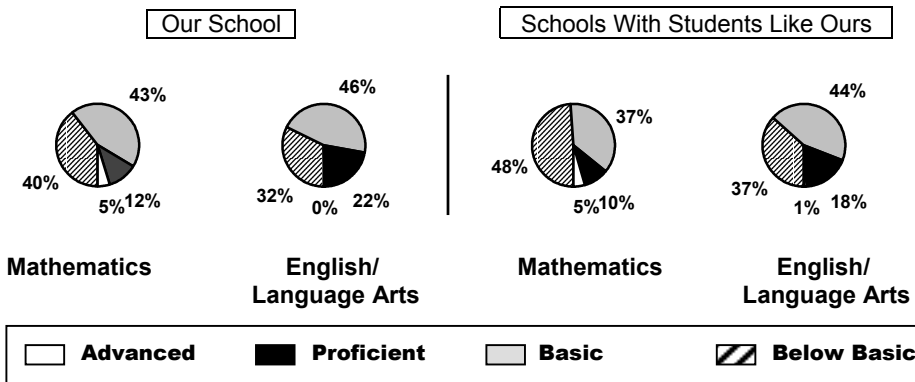
Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 110.
 The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from unsatisfactory to excellent.
 For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- **Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- **Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- **Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=258)	67.8	60.5	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=16)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=238)	70.2	63.3		
Gender				
Male (n=125)	65.6	62.2		
Female (n=129)	72.1	59.2		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=249)	68.7	59.9		
Hispanic (n=4)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=1)	N/A	N/A		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=219)	67.6	62.2		
Pay for lunch (n=32)	81.3	56.3		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,165	N/A	\$5,904	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	89.5%	Down from 90%	89.6%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.1 to 1	N/A	17 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=605)				
• Attendance Rate	96.9%	Up from 96.5%	96.2%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	11.4%	N/A	6.9%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	6.2%	N/A	5.8%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	82.7%	Down from 93.7%	98.1%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	7.5%	Down from 8.6%	5.8%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=45)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	8.2 Days	Up from 7.4	7.4 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	94.3%	Down from 94.7%	95%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	57.8%	Down from 60.9%	43.8%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	73.3%	Down from 85.4%	77.3%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	4.4%	Up from 0%	2.9%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	80.5%	Down from 81.3%	81.3%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$36,965	Up 5.0%	\$36,129	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	77.9%	N/A	64.6%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	4	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	99%	N/A	87.4%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	39.2%	Up from 38.9%	64.2%	43.1%
• On academic probation	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	1%	Up from 0.4%	2.1%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	4	N/A	2	1
• Gifted and talented	6.1%	Down from 10.6%	5.3%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	4.1%	Down from 4.3%	8.7%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Thomas Elementary School implemented several best educational practices for the 2000-01 school year from the very beginning of the school day until after the end of the school day. Pre-homeroom and homeroom activities began with daily reviews of language and math skills. Accelerated Reader, Soar to Success, Reading Recovery and Breakthrough to Literacy programs were incorporated daily. The staff attended on-site and off-site staff development on balanced literacy, effective teaching strategies, exemplary writing and math strategies. Lower pupil-teacher ratios, in-school suspension, common planning times and grade-level paraprofessionals provided for more effective instructional delivery.

PACT test results revealed a need to improve student performance in math and writing. TigerMath was the theme for our annual Tigerfest. Writing was integrated across the curriculum. A PACT after-school academic assistance program was held for grades three through five scoring below basic. An after-school homework and tutoring program coexisted for grades one and two. An enrichment program for basic, proficient and advanced students was offered. Grades three and four basic and proficient students and selected MAT-7 50th percentile and above students were challenged in enrichment classes taught by AAP teachers during the school day.

Highlights included two teachers receiving National Board Certification; media recognition by the state superintendent during an on-site press conference for impressive increases in first-grade students scoring ready on the CSAB to more than 91 percent over a five-year period. A very successful and well-attended Health Awareness Fest was held. For the past two years our school has served as a S.C. Model Healthy School that provides data to the SDE, DHEC and CDC on the effect of implementing the eight components of a model healthy school.

PACT awareness and parenting seminars, instructional program information workshops and housing workshops were offered to the school community. Family Reading Night and Technology Night provided parents and the community access to computers. An active SIC maintained a current public relations board at a local business partner site. From nine very active business partnerships, our students received after-school tutoring, in-school tutoring, Lunch Buddies, mentoring, homework assistance, recreation, enrichment lessons and supplies.

On-site renovations all year during prime instructional time, portables, a drop in PTA funds and a decline in staff morale were the challenges we faced.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	25.6	73.2	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	30.2	70.0	
Satisfied with home-school relations	33.3	87.0	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

4001062

John P Thomas Elementary
6001 Weston Ave.
Columbia S. C. 29203

Grades K-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 605 Students

Principal

Delphine Scott 803-735-3430

Superintendent

Dr. Ronald L. Epps 803-733-6041

Board Chair

Vince Ford 803-733-6061

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Good

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myscschools.com